

Universal Demand Is for Experience

By ED T. GILTZOW, Columbus, Ohio

—and profoundly desiring to avert this calamity, I have sought in vain for an opportunity to enter, specialize and develop in the automobile industry. With this end in view I have planned with sincerity of purpose, enthusiastically and systematically to devote my leisure moments to the acquisition of knowledge and skill with the object of enhancing the value of my services both to my employer and myself, and with the ultimate aim of becoming a sales representative.

One of the mountainous obstacles impeding the realization of this aspiration is the universal demand for experience and the seemingly equally universal lack among employers of volunteers to contribute to the novice the first opportunity for its acquisition. Wending his way from door to door in a futile and discouraging search, the prospective specialist must soon accept employment of whatever nature to sustain himself and possibly some dependents. With this acceptance of uncongenial employment his opportunity for further search is curtailed. His enthusiasm dampened, indifference finally results.

Vocational training is an obligation which society owes its younger members because of the highly technical and complex nature of modern industry. Well organized federal employment bureaus co-operating with such schools would solve this problem at least partially.

One cannot blame the young man, whether, as one contributor expresses it, he is "cognizant or not" of the danger of just floating through life, and the gainfulness of planning with his own God-given bent in mind a lifework. At least not until we offer a "fair field and no favor." Opportunities when made available will find no want of eligible applicants.

Help Rather Than Hinder One Another

By J. F. KNOX, Birmingham, Ala.

I have often heard it remarked that people of the new South were not so courteous as was the case in antebellum days, and perhaps this is true. But, nevertheless, the people of Birmingham and other communities are well disposed and usually wish to help rather than hinder one another. For example, I was recently employed in taking a time view of one of the downtown show windows. It was a rush order and the work had to be performed in the busy part of the day.

In taking a picture of this kind it is necessary to have an exposure of ten minutes without interruption. The camera was stationed at the edge of the sidewalk so as to have the correct distance, and a friend politely requested pedestrians not to pass before the camera. One would be surprised at the number of people who will pass a given point when business is brisk. I suppose there were several hundred. But with the exception of two instances there was ready acquiescence to my friend's request.

This incident, I think, will go to show that by far the greater portion of the people of Birmingham, at least, are to all practical purposes considerate and kindly disposed and prefer to help rather than hinder the worker.

Superficiality Is Greatest of Sins

By C. C. REYNOLDS, Dayton, Ohio

One of the great sins of the age is superficiality—an indifference to the deeper meaning of things; an indisposition to think. It is the dusty outside, the frivolous glimpse of events and things, the joke of it, that engage the universal attention. This situation is destructive of character and sacrifices understanding, which is the basis of wisdom.

Many think this is no offense; that one is innocent if he is only superficial. We take to the frivolous and laughing side of things, just as we take to narcotics and intoxicants, because it is pleasant and tends to relieve one from the anxieties and duties of the hour. A person thus slips away on a faldral from the realities of life.

The Bible enjoins upon us to be sober-minded. This admonition is as wholesome and exacting as any part of the Decalogue. It is based upon the idea that superficiality is destructive of mind and soul.

The frivolous person has no character, no purpose in life, no respect for wisdom and understanding.

The evil effects are everywhere shown—in church, in school, in court, in legislative hall, in shops; there is no insistence upon truth.

Siberian Pea Tree of Early Origin

By J. P. PEDERSEN, Chicago

shrub—is an old acquaintance. The date of its discovery is given in Nicholson's "Dictionary of Gardening" as the year 1752. No doubt it has been cultivated in Europe since about that time, being introduced to this country not much later.

In 1910 we planted seeds of it in the city nursery at the Gage farm and have them at present, about five thousand plants, besides a few sent us a couple of years ago from the government.

It is a rather useful plant, one of its good qualities being its hardiness. But, though I have handled it for the last twenty years in the Chicago parks, I don't believe I have ever seen a flower on it here, although in Europe it flowers very freely.

Its botanical name is Caragana arborecens.

Many Have Strange Ideas of Liberty

By C. R. REICHOW, Brooklyn, N. Y.

What strange ideas many persons have of liberty! What an amount of mischief has been done to society by such "rabble charming words," as South calls them—words "which have so much wildfire wrapped up in them"—as liberty, equality and fraternity!

How many who "bawl for freedom" confound it with license! A republic presupposes a high state of morals, but how can this be possible without the habit of subordination and respect, and how can these exist without humility?

The true freeman is not only jealous of his own rights, but respects and cares for the rights of others, and is indignant when any man, even the meanest, is wronged or trampled under foot.

The man who is always boasting of his freedom is probably a slave to the meanest and most tyrannical vices, passions or prejudices.

Keenly conscious of the tragic fate certain to engulf the purposeless, shifting and subsequently unskilled individual—a consciousness bred of personal experience and observation

THE EUROPEAN WAR A YEAR AGO THIS WEEK

Sept. 6, 1914.

Russians attacked Germans on left bank of Vistula, occupied Strij region and captured Forty-fifth Austrian regiment near Krasnyastaw.

German right wing checked near Paris.

Kaiser directed attack on Nancy. British cruiser Pathfinder destroyed by mine.

Germans levied war tax on captured cities.

France called out recruits of 1915.

French fleet bombarded Cattaro.

Sept. 7, 1914.

Austrians retreated and Russians closed in on Przemyel.

Allies forced Germans back from Nanteuil to Verdun, German right wing retreating across the Marne.

Germans defeated Belgians near Melle and marched on Ghent.

Germans repulsed at Capelle-au-Bols.

Germans destroyed Dinant.

British submarine attacked German fleet in Bremerhaven harbor.

American ambulance corps at work in field near Paris.

Sept. 8, 1914.

Russians took Nikolaieff and Mikolajow.

Austrians defeated Serbs near Mitrovica.

Serbian invasion of Bosnia begun.

French defeated Germans on the Ourcq.

Severe fighting at Vitry.

British merchant cruiser Oceanic wrecked on coast of Scotland.

Austrian government appealed to Jews in Poland to fight against Russia.

Sept. 9, 1914.

British and French forces crossed the Marne in pursuit of Germans.

Germans evacuated Upper Alsace.

Battle at Rawa Russka.

Austrians evacuated Russian Poland.

Germans captured Maubeuge and 40,000 men.

Japanese force of 20,000 landed at Lunow.

Force of 60,000 natives from India landed in France.

Kaiser protested to President Wilson against alleged use of dum-dum bullets by the allies.

British cruiser captured the Noordam with German reservists.

Sept. 10, 1914.

General von Stein admitted defeat by allies.

Belgians reoccupied Termonde, Aerschot and Diest.

Russians invaded Silesia and menaced Breslau.

Austro-Germans defeated at Lublin.

Russians suffered reverses in East Prussia.

Germans defeated by British in Nyassaland, Africa.

Panic in Cracow; Archduke Frederick admitted loss of 120,000 men in Galicia.

British house of commons voted to add 500,000 men to regular army.

Pope issued appeal for peace.

Sept. 11, 1914.

German line west of Revigny retreated, but captured fort near Verdun.

French recaptured Muelhausen.

Germans marched south from Ghent with Belgians in pursuit.

Serbs took Semlin.

Montenegrins captured Folcha and joined Serbs in advance on Sarajevo.

Germans defeated invading Finland force at Lyck.

Russians occupied Suczawa and Hatna.

Austrians resumed offensive near Lemberg.

President Poincare sent message to President Wilson denying use of dum-dum bullets.

An Insuperable Objection.

Nell—I wouldn't marry the best man living.

Belle—But, you know, nobody ever expects the bride to marry the best man.

Use Much Cottonseed Oil.

Today the cotton fields of the United States have to a great extent replaced in our economic system the olive groves of the Mediterranean district. The oil is a first-class edible product and the cake after crushing the seed constitutes an equally valuable cattle feed.

Guided by Instinct.

If a chimpanzee is wounded it stops the bleeding by placing its hand on the wound, or dressing it with leaves and grass.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By O. E. SELLERS, Acting Director of the Sunday School Course of the Moody Bible Institute.)

LESSON FOR SEPTEMBER 12

ELIJAH'S FLIGHT AND RETURN.

LESSON TEXT—I Kings 19:9-18. (Read entire chapter.)
GOLDEN TEXT—Be still and know that I am God. Ps. 46:10.

Elijah's great victory over the prophets of Baal which resulted in their extermination is followed by a most notable prayer service on the top of Mount Carmel (18:42-45). So confident was the prophet that at the arising of "a little cloud," he hastily summoned the feasting king and urges his departure to his home, "that the rain stop thee not." The God whom Elijah had honored so signally that day laid his hand upon the prophet (18:46) so that he was able to outrun the king's horses to the entrance of Jezreel. There he is met by a messenger of the wicked queen (19:2) who had been the protector and provider of the slain prophets. Getting his eyes off of God and seeing only a vile and wicked woman Elijah not only ran for his life out of Ahab's domains but also "went a day's journey into the wilderness" to the protecting shade of a juniper tree (v. 4).

I. The Discouraged Prophet, vv. 4-8. Old and young, great and small, we all have our periods of discouragement and frequently despair. Christian's encounter with Giant Despair appeals to us all for it is so true to life. At Carmel, Elijah controlled the king; in his palace at Jezreel, Jezebel soon shattered his good resolutions. If he had any. We must recall that it was her prophets Elijah had destroyed. There is a suggestion in the fact that Elijah did not enter her presence (18:46). Yonder in the wilderness, his Gethsemane, Elijah prayed a vastly different sort of prayer than upon Mount Carmel. Jezebel is still in power. Heathenism is not overthrown, his efforts had been but trying to "dam Niagara with bulrushes."

No one who has ever heard the oratorio "Elijah" sung will ever forget the bitter agony of "It is enough." The prophet who alone had been exalted to the heights was alone capable to sounding such a depth of human despair. The sources of his discouragement were his physical condition, his loneliness, inactivity, mental reaction and a feeling that his cause was lost.

God's first remedy was to feed his fainting servant and then give him a task to perform, viz., a journey to Mount Horeb (Mount of God), for God loved him just as truly now as previously at Carmel. In this new strength Elijah went "forty days" (v. 8; I Pet. 2:2).

II. The Encouraging God, vv. 9-13. God's second remedy was to give Elijah his word through this time it suggested reproach. "What doest thou here?" Elijah is out of place. In reply he begins to rehearse his loyalty to God, and how bad the others were and then in seeming petulance he adds, "and they seek my life." "I only," are the words of the selfish man and when Elijah used them he too was a backslidden servant. It is true that there was great apostasy in Israel but the prophet was far from being the only true servant remaining. (See 18:4; 20:13; 22:35, 41; 22:8). This is a favorite way the Evil One has for paralyzing our efforts. There is no evidence but that the 7,000 were as brave, certainly at that moment more so, than Elijah. God then continued his treatment by giving the prophet a vision of himself and of his methods for advancing his kingdom. A series of symbols made the truth plainer and more impressive than words alone could possibly have done. Leaving the protecting cave Elijah first met a wind which "rent the mountains," a type of Elijah's past activity. This was not God's chief power nor method. The mighty wind which destroys is as nothing compared to the silent forces which create.

III. The Result, vv. 14-18. As a sovereign remedy God now sets before Elijah three definite tasks to perform. Elijah still speaks of his faithfulness as though the success of The Cause depended upon him. The man who assumes that attitude in the work of God's kingdom will, like Elijah, soon be set aside. Elijah's first task was to avoid Israel and go to Damascus and "anoint"—set apart for special service—Hazael (v. 17), who was to be the instrument of punishing Israel. His next task was to find Jehu, the commander in chief of Ahab's army, and set him aside to be the king, not immediately but to be in training for that office.

Elijah's work is now not that of fire and wind, but of the "still small voice." To others is delegated the more spectacular tasks which these typify.

In this connection (v. 17) those are strange words, "shall Elshah alay." To fully understand them we must be familiar with that prophet's life and work, also with that accomplished by Jehu. (See II Kings 2:23, 24; Hos. 6:8, 9; Isa. 11:6.)

Elijah's third task was to appoint his successor and surely no harder task ever comes to any of us than to turn over our work to another.

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HAD TO HAVE MORE ROOM

Wobbly Man Needed Extra Accommodation Before He Could Really Enjoy Seeing Play.

During the run of a play in New York last winter a wobbly person teetered up to the box office one Saturday night when the place was packed and demanded a good seat.

"Nothing left except standing room," said the box-office man. "Sell you standing room for a dollar."

The wavering one produced a dollar and went inside. But so many general admissions were grouped at the rear that over the intervening hedge of heads he caught only vagrant glimpses of what was going on upon the stage.

He foggly considered the situation for a spell. Then he rocked his weaving way back to the box-office window and put a second dollar on the shelf.

"Gimme nozzir one of them standin' rooms," he ordered; "can't see the show at all if you only got one."—Saturday Evening Post.

Their Conversation.

In the days of Henry Clay a Kentucky farmer sent a servant to Lexington with a note for the president of a certain bank. When the man returned he said to his master:

"I met Marsa Henry Clay in the bank and had a conversation with him."

"Indeed! and on what topic did you and Mr. Clay converse?" inquired the master with interest.

The darky removed his hat and made a sweeping bow. "Says Mr. Clay to me. . . . And another very low bow. 'And I the same to Mr. Clay.'—Everybody's Magazine.

Not Too Cheap.

"Talk is cheap," said the man who is always quoting proverbs.

"Oh, sure," said the man who was waiting for an opening to make a touch. "Lend me five dollars so I can call my wife up on the phone. She's in Chicago."

So Paw Says.

Little Lemuel—What's a bachelor maid, paw?

Paw—A bachelor maid, son is a spinster who still has hopes.

Occasionally a man makes a great hit by doing the wrong thing at the right time.

Theory and Practice.
Mrs. Blough—I don't try to suit everyone. I always want people to take me just as I am.

Caller—Glad to hear it, for we're in a big hurry. I'm the staff photographer for the Scarehead, and the Sunday editor sent me out to get a snapshot of you—

Mrs. Blough—Good Heavens! Wait till I run and frill up a bit and put on some more powder.—Judge.

Used to It.

"You got pretty well tanned while you were at the seashore, didn't you, Willie?" said the visitor.

"That's nothing," retorted Willie. "I get tanned most every day while I'm home, too."

The more money a man has the more he is abused—and the less he cares.

Tedious Business.

"What is your attitude toward the belligerents in Europe?"

"Oh, the usual attitude."

"And what is that?"

"I'm just waiting for them to quit."

"Umph! You are evidently not rushed for time."

Only a married man can fully appreciate the comforts of his club.

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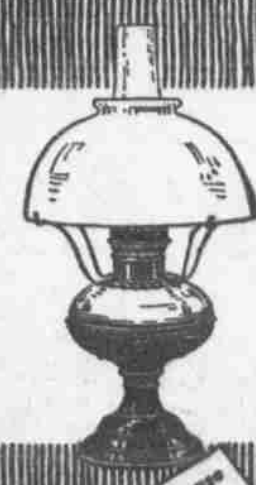
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